LEGO
BrickMaster
magazine
POWER MINERS
Challenge the rock monsters!
STAR WARS™
Clone Wars comic action!
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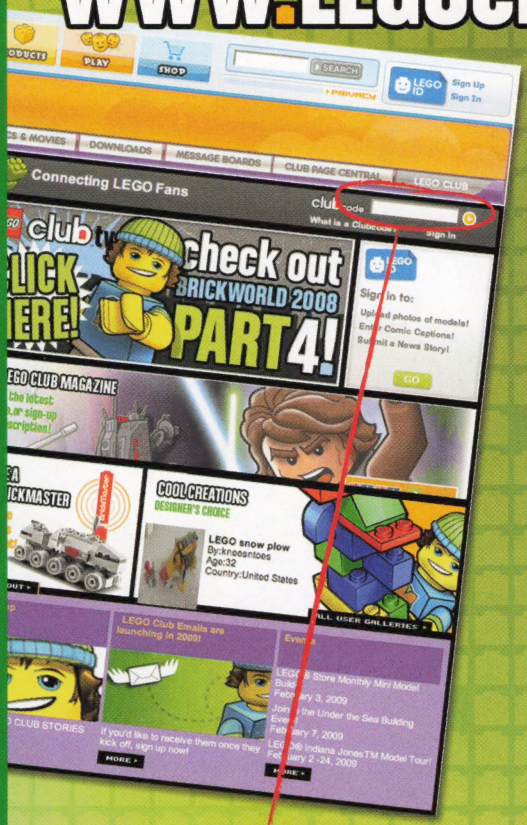
CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW AT

www.LEGOclub.com!



There's always lots of new and cool stuff to see and do on the LEGO Club website!

- ALL NEW! Strange beings have been sighted around the LEGO offices! Check out www.LEGOclub.com the week of April 20th for a special announcement!
- Sign up for the new LEGO Club email newsletter at LEGOClub.com, clubcode EMAIL
- See an expanded interview with the designers of an awesome LEGO Yankee Stadium model!
- Find out the latest news on LEGO Club meetings at LEGO Stores!
- Find out all about how you could tour the LEGO HQ in Denmark at www.LEGO.com/insidetour
- Submit your LEGO Cool Creations photos!
- Exclusive Building Instructions and Building Tips from LEGO Master Builders and fans like you!
- Plus much more!

Enter the LEGO Club Magazine Trivia Contest!

clubcode TRIVIA

Go to www.LEGOclub.com, Club Code: TRIVIA, to find the five super-secret trivia questions, along with rules on how to enter. Answer all five questions correctly (the answers are in this issue of the magazine!), and you could win a $100 LEGO Gift Card. Five lucky winners will be chosen at random from all the correct entries received.

LEGO Club Meetings Are Back!

Come to a LEGO Club meeting at your local LEGO Store! You'll have fun with other Club members, get to participate in exciting building activities, and get an exclusive LEGO Club t-shirt!

Meetings take place twice a month on Saturday mornings, brefore the store opens. Go to www.LEGOclub.com and click on "Events" to find times and dates!

LEGO CREATOR

3 WAYS TO RULE ON LAND AND AIR!

The 6747 Race Rider is blazing down the road with a working suspension and steering, while 6745 Propeller Power takes to the skies with functional landing gear...but that's not all, because with 3-in-1 LEGO Creator power, each set can be rebuilt into two more amazing land and air vehicles!

Will your Race Rider be a sport bike, chopper bike or dragster – and which one really rules the road? Will you build your Propeller Power as a prop plane, jet or helicopter – and which one is tops for aerial speed and super stunts?

With LEGO Creator 3-in-1, it's all up to you!

LEGO POWER MINERS

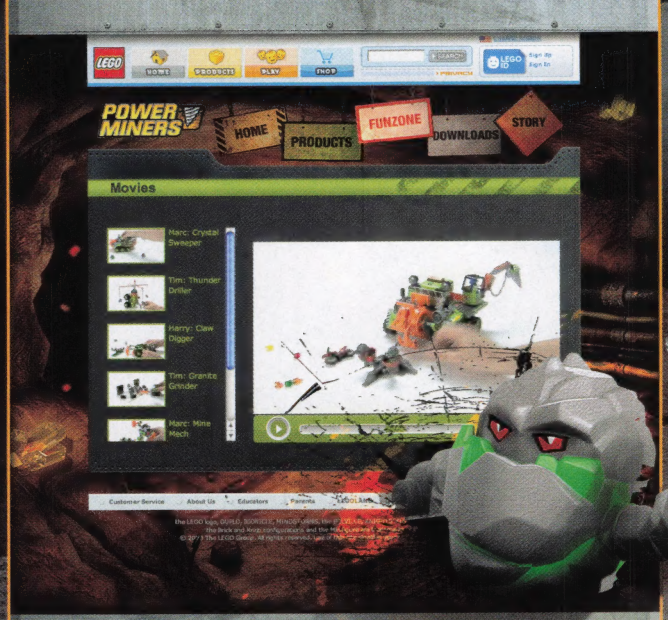
SWEEPING UP TROUBLE!

DID SOMEBODY CALL FOR BACKUP? BECAUSE THE CRYSTAL SWEEPER'S HERE TO LEND A HAND!
JUST IN TIME, TOO! HELP US OUT WITH THESE ROCK MONSTERS, WILL YA?
YAH!
YAH!
RAH!
A-ACTUALLY, IT M-MIGHT BE A B-BETTER IDEA TO COLLECT THE C-CRYSTALS FIRST.
WHY CHOOSE...
...WHEN THE CRYSTAL SWEEPER CAN DO BOTH AT THE SAME TIME?
YAH!
NO – WAIT!
IF YOU MIX THE MONSTERS AND CRYSTALS TOGETHER...
CHOMP!
WINCH!
KRUNCH!

...THEY'LL START SHAKING THINGS UP AGAIN!
YOW! NOW YOU TELL ME!
R-R-R-RUMMBLE!
R-R-R-RUMMBLE!
TAKE THE MOTORBIKE – IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
ESCAPE? NO WAY!
I CAME ON THIS MISSION TO STOP THOSE RUMBLINGS—
--AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M GONNA DO!
RAH!
BZZZZ
GOOD WORK, POWER MINERS! NOW LET'S GET THESE CRYSTALS BACK TO BASE...
...AND FIGURE OUT HOW TO STOP THOSE MONSTERS FROM SHAKING APART THE ENTIRE PLANET!
MORE POWER MINERS VEHICLES AND ACTION AT POWERMINERS.LEGO.COM!

MINING MACHINES!

These mega-powerful mining vehicles are tough, rugged, and built to drill, dig and scoop their way deep below the surface. The Power Miners are on a mission to save the world from the underground menace of the rock monsters, and with these mighty machines on their side, they're sure to get the job done!



Check out cool Power Miners videos featuring the set designers on **powerminers.LEGO.com**!

8959 CLAW DIGGER

Nothing is better than the Claw Digger at ripping up rocks and tearing down walls. Even rock monsters run when they see those big claws swinging – and for good reason, because that shovel can scoop them right up if they get in its way!

- Hydraulic claws swing up and down to smash, rip and dig.
- Big spiked wheels roll over any obstacles in the way.
- Shovel lifts to scoop up crystals or capture rock monsters.
- Nitro-fueled rear engine boosts power to wheels and claws.
- Heavy armor and roll-cage resist impacts, cave-ins and rock monster teeth.

8961 CRYSTAL SWEEPER

The Crystal Sweeper was built to collect and store crystals while fending off rock monster attacks with its heavy armor plating. It's the biggest, toughest vehicle on the Power Miners team so far!

- Turbine-powered harvester wheel spins as treads roll to gather up crystals and deposit them in rear-mounted collection bucket.
- Rotating side-mounted crane uses laser-cutter drill to excavate crystals.
- Control cabin and spotlights give crew an all-around view of crystals, rock monsters and underground traps.
- Power cycle deploys for emergency rescues or escapes.

LEGO POWER MINERS

8958 GRANITE GRINDER

With its double-pronged rock hammer pounding away at crystal-packed boulders and cave walls, the Granite Grinder packs more stone-smashing power than a whole barrel of dynamite!

- Dual-pronged jackhammer automatically strikes and retracts as vehicle rolls.
- Extra-wide treads provide maximum stability on underground terrain.
- Wagon sled attaches behind vehicle to tow crystals back to base.
- Cockpit-mounted searchlight illuminates dark caves and tunnels.

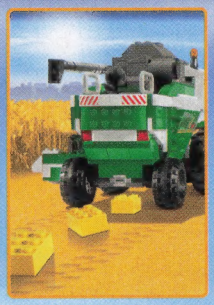
8960 THUNDER DRILLER

The Thunder Driller's massive spinning drill is the only thing powerful enough to dig through the planet's solid crust. It brought the Power Miners to the underground caverns, and it'll get them home when the mission is done!

- Double-geared planetary drill rotates as wheels roll.
- Giant titanium wheels grip any surface for traction while digging.
- Magma-core engine delivers almost unlimited power to drill and wheels.
- Heat-resistant plating protects against molten lava and rock monster attacks.

www.LEGOSub.com

DOWN ON THE FARM!



7636
Combine
Harvester

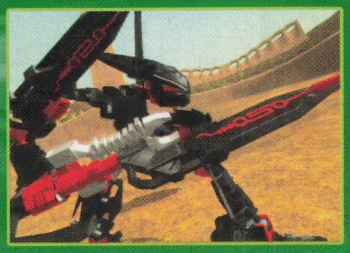
7637
Farm

It's a beautiful day on the LEGO City Farm – but Farmer Brown is really down. Things keep going wrong on his farm! Can you spot all the things wrong in this picture?

AVAILABLE ONLY AT

CHALLENGE THE GLATORIAN ARENA!

Check out the newest and most exciting BIONICLE® game ever on BIONICLE.com – Glatorian Arena!



The first BIONICLE online game in full 3D!

- Battle Glatorian in Arena Magna – collect their weapons when you win, and move up in rank!
- Meet and talk with characters from the new BIONICLE world of Bara Magna!
- Use your melee weapon or Thornax launcher in different types of game play!
- New characters and locations coming in late July!

Do you have what it takes to rule the arena? Log on to BIONICLE.com and find out today!

GLATORIAN BIONICLE®

Check out SpongeBob.LEGO.com to see SpongeBob's new Pineapple house!

WHAT'S NEW IN BIKINI BOTTOM?

Who lives in a pineapple under the sea that you can build yourself? LEGO® SpongeBob SquarePants, that's who! SpongeBob has a brand-new pineapple house, and he wants all of his friends and neighbors to visit and see everything that's shiny and new!

PATRICK'S BOAT

SpongeBob may not have his driver's license yet, but Patrick's dropping by to show off his new boat to his friends, complete with marshmallow launcher!

SQUIDWARD'S GRILL

All Squidward wants to do is sit back, read a book and enjoy a Krabby Patty from his new burger-flipping grill in peace, but SpongeBob and Patrick just won't leave him alone!

SPONGEBOB'S WATER BLASTER

Look out, Squidward! SpongeBob has a brand-new turbo-powered reef blower, and he's not afraid to use it!

LEGO SpongeBob SquarePants

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BRICKBEARD'S BOUNTY!

The famous pirate ship *Brickbeard's Bounty* sails the seven seas in search of gold and adventure! Captain Brickbeard's crew has captured the Admiral's daughter, but will she walk the plank? Not if the Royal Navy soldiers have anything to say about it!

MONKEY TROUBLE!

Monkeys have gotten loose on the Brickbeard's Bounty and are hiding bananas all over the ship! Hoist your spyglass and see if you're enough of a keen-eyed buccaneer to spot all 10 monkeys and bananas!

Fire cannons! Let everybody know that the Brickbeard's Bounty is on the way!

Hey! Hands off! Do I take stuff that belongs to you? Well, yeah, I guess I do.

I always wanted to live on a pirate ship, but this wasn't what I had in mind!

Is it just me, or does it look like it's more fun being a pirate?

Give me that! I need to buy a new funny hat to replace this one.

LEGO PIRATES
Awk! Aye-aye, Cap'n Brickbeard!
Go to pirates.LEGO.com to play the new LEGO Pirates online game!
Full speed ahead, me hearties! There be treasure over the next horizon!
Hey, you can't make me walk the plank! My new dress might get wet!

COOL CREATIONS

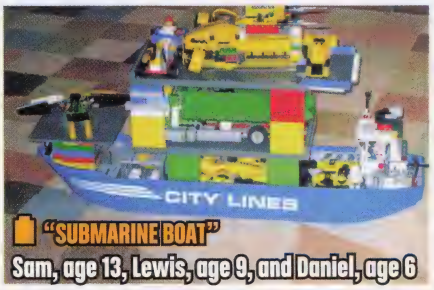
"COAST GUARD SHIP 99"
Noah Calvin, age 8

Got an awesome model of your own you would like to see in Cool Creations? Then send your photos to:

LEGO club
COOL CREATIONS
P.O. BOX 1308
ENFIELD, CT 06083-1308

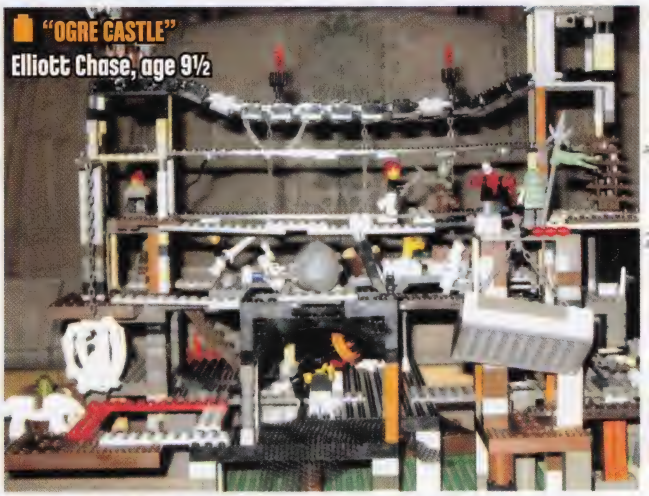
Remember to include your name, address, and the name of your model. No Polaroids please! Pictures will not be returned, so remember to take an extra photo for yourself!

Check out more completely creative LEGO models
www.LEGOclub.com
clubcode
COOLCREATIONS

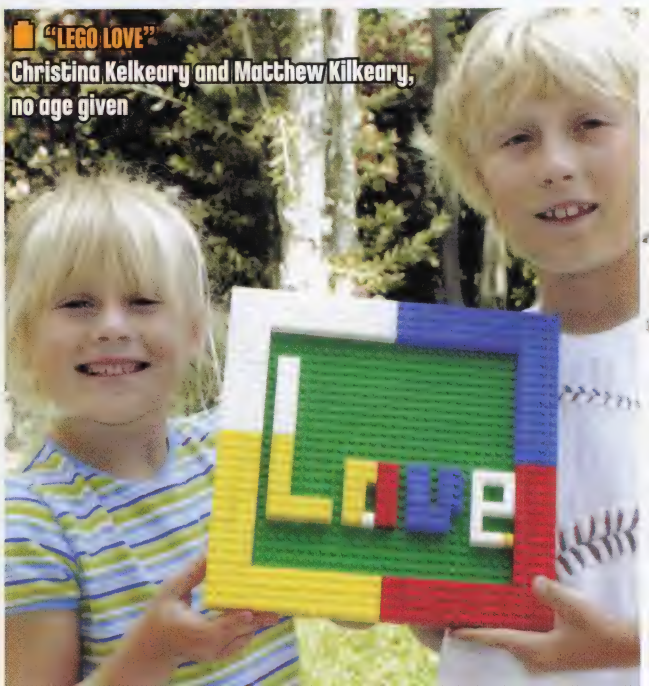


"SUBMARINE BOAT"
Sam, age 13, Lewis, age 9, and Daniel, age 6

"GIANT LEGO MAN"
Dominic Placencia, no age given



"OGRE CASTLE"
Elliott Chase, age 9½



"LEGO LOVE"
Christina Kelkeary and Matthew Kilkeary, no age given

LEGO CASTLE SHIP BUILDING CHALLENGE WINNERS!

Alethia Brewer, age 9

Jonathan Jones, age 12

Jed Nixon, age 14

Noah McClung, age 11

Elmer Alvendia, age 45, and Denmark Alvendia, age 6

EXPLORING THE WORLD OF CAVES!

The Power Miners travel deep into caves and tunnels seeking mysterious crystals and fighting rampaging rock monsters. In real life, people explore caves to learn more about them and the plants and animals that live inside, or just for fun. There is still a lot to discover about the world underground and these explorers – called "cavers" – want to discover it all!

What kind of things do they find in caves? What are some of the dangers of cave exploration? What kind of equipment does a caver need? Read on to find out!

IMPORTANT: Cave exploration can be very dangerous. NEVER explore a cave without a parent or other adult present.

Caves are not just big empty spaces. They are full of mineral formations that develop over thousands of years. Some of these include:

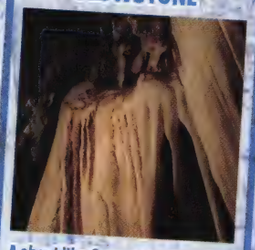
STALACTITES

These pointed formations hang from the ceiling, from which they grow.

STALAGMITES

These are often the same shape as stalactites, but grow up from the floor rather than down from the ceiling.

FLOWSTONE



A sheetlike formation found on walls and floors.

CAVE CRYSTALS

Usually made of calcite or aragonite, these have names like "moonmilk" and "frostwork".

Although these formations may look big and sturdy, often they are very fragile. Cavers have to be very careful not to damage them!

ROCK THE CAVE!

READY TO GO CAVING?

Not without the right equipment, you're not! A smart caver knows his safety depends on having the right gear, including:

Cavers know to wear warm clothes and ones they don't mind getting dirty. Many caves have muddy or wet areas, plus a caver will spend a lot of time crawling through narrow spaces.

The helmet, light, and first aid kit are three of the most important items every caver carries. There's always a chance of injury when exploring a cave, whether from falling rocks, slipping and falling, or exposure to the cold and damp. It's also important to make sure that everyone in the group pays attention to the route they took in – because they will need to take the same route out!

THE SECRETS OF CAVES

A cave is any hollow place in the earth that has formed naturally. Most caves are made of limestone. Over the years, rain water and groundwater dissolves the limestone, creating a space big enough for a person to enter.

There are many other types of caves. Lava tubes are the result of volcanic eruptions. Sea caves are created by waves eroding the rock in sea cliffs. Glacier caves occur in ice as the result of melting.

Caves can be found all over the world, but only a small number of them have been explored. Scientists visit caves for many reasons. Many plant and animal species live most or all of their lives in caves, and some cannot be found anywhere else. Primitive humans also lived in caves, and their artwork and tools can sometimes still be found there, preserved for tens of thousands of years.

CAVE-SPEAK

Cavers have a language of their own. Here are some terms you might hear one use:

FLATTENER
A passage that's so low the only way to get through is to crawl on your belly.

ROOF SNIFFING
Moving through a passage that's almost completely filled with water, so that there's only a small amount of air between the top of the water and the roof.

TROG UP
To put on your caver gear and equipment before going into a cave.

ACTIVE CAVE
A cave with water flowing through it.

AIR RAPPEL
Falling into a pit.

THE LIFE OF CAVES

The motto of the caver is, "Leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but pictures, kill nothing but time." Caves are very fragile environments and carelessness can do great damage to the rock formations and the plants and animals inside.

There are three major types of cave creature.

"CAVE GUESTS"
These are creatures who live near or just inside the cave entrance. The most common are bats. During the cold weather, bats flock to caves to stay warm and raise they young. Other "cave guests" include pack rats, bears, bobcats and raccoons.

"CAVE LOVERS"
These are animals who live in caves but may explore outside of it to find food. Some examples of these are salamanders, flatworms, cave crickets, and daddy longlegs.

"CAVE DWELLERS"
These are the permanent inhabitants of caves. Many of them are blind. Examples of these include the Tooth Cave spider (some members of this species have no eyes at all!), the Tooth Cave ground beetle, blind salamanders, blind shrimp, and cave fish.

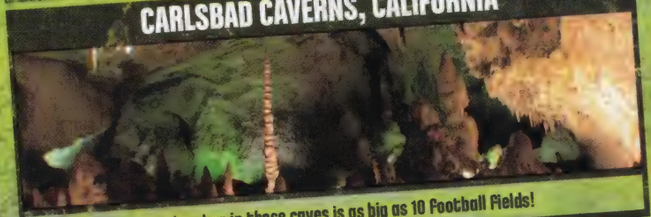
Plants can be found near or just inside of caves. Most of these are mosses, ferns, or algae. Since green plants need sunlight to grow, there are no plants to be found far inside a cave.

FAMOUS CAVES

MAMMOTH CAVE, KENTUCKY

The largest cave network ever explored, with well over 300 miles of tunnels.

CARLSBAD CAVERNS, CALIFORNIA

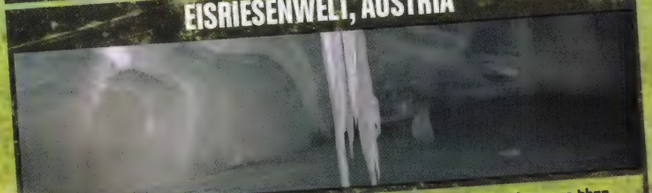


One chamber in these caves is as big as 10 football fields!

LASCAUX, FRANCE

Discovered by a group of young people in 1940, this cave is famous for its paintings of horses, bulls, deer and other animals, made by people who lived there 17,000 years ago.

EISRIESENWELT, AUSTRIA



The largest ice cave in the world more than 26 miles long, visited by more than 200,000 people each year.

CUEVAS DEL DRACH, SPAIN

One of the most popular cave attractions in Europe, Cuevas del Drach is home to Martel Lake, one of the largest subterranean lakes in the world.

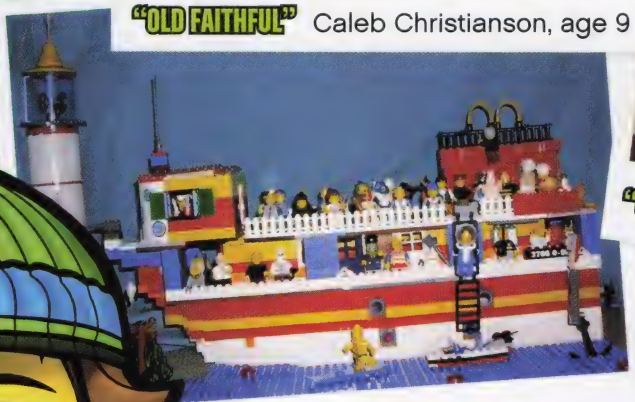
LEGO® DREAM VACATION BUILDING CHALLENGE WINNERS!

Where would you like to go, if you could go anywhere on your vacation? These LEGO BrickMasters know, and their models are the winners of this issue's LEGO building challenge! Congratulations to them and to all who entered.

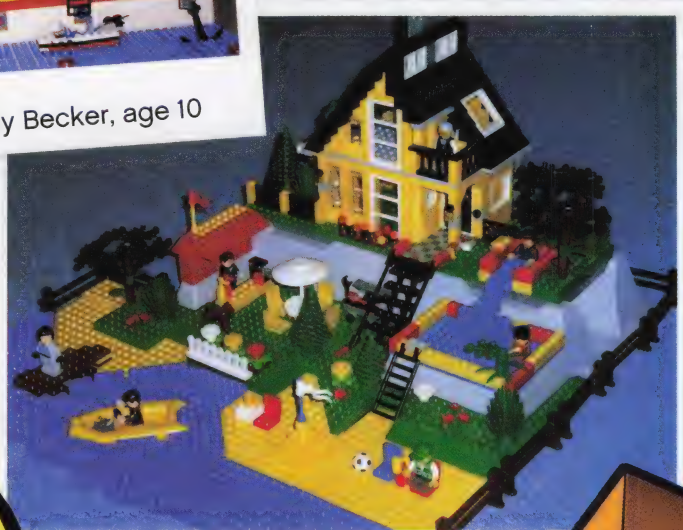
"CHICAGO" Dylan Shafel, age 9

"OLD FAITHFUL" Caleb Christianson, age 9

"OFF-ROADING" Jodi Totti, age 5

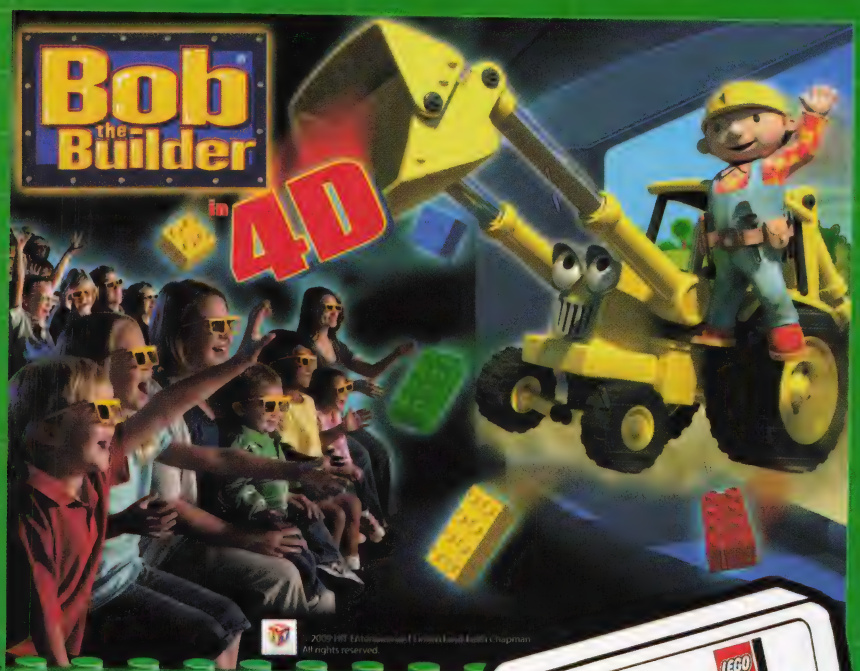


"CRUISE" Danny Becker, age 10



"RESORT" Jonathan Hunyadi, age 11

BOB THE BUILDER™ IN 4-D!



Bob the Builder and the Roller Coaster **is coming exclusively to LEGOLAND® Family theme parks worldwide. Shows run several times each day the Park is open, in the LEGO® Show Place Theater at LEGOLAND® California beginning March 20.**

Bob the Builder™ and his Can-Do-Crew demonstrate teamwork and follow-through as they learn the importance of starting each building project with a plan. The 10-minute film uses 3-D computer generated animation with special effects such as wind and mist for a 4-D experience.

FREE
Child Hopper Ticket with Paid Adult Hopper Ticket!

LEGOLAND® CALIFORNIA RESORT

11522

Offer may only be redeemed for one free Child 1-Day Hopper Ticket with the purchase of an Adult 1-Day Hopper Ticket to LEGOLAND® California and SEA LIFE Aquarium at the LEGOLAND California Resort.

The fun is as close as Carlsbad, just off the I-5, 30 minutes north of San Diego and one hour south of Anaheim. The Park is open 5 days a week, closing on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, but is open daily during specific holiday periods. For Park information, visit www.LEGOLAND.com or call (760) 918-LEGO. Prices, times and schedules subject to change without notice.

Original coupon must be exchanged at ticket booth at time of purchase to receive one free Child 1-Day Hopper Ticket with the purchase of a full price Adult 1-Day Hopper Ticket. Valid only on the day of purchase at LEGOLAND. Cannot be applied to pre-purchased or online ticket sales, or combined with any other discounts or offers. No photocopies or facsimiles will be accepted. Children 2 and under are admitted free. Additional restrictions may apply. Prices and hours subject to change without notice. Not for resale. Expires 9/30/2009 LBM.

SPECIAL NOTE:
The LEGOLAND Master Model Competition has been changed to the second weekend of each month.

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LEGO STAR WARS

THE HUNT FOR R2-D2!

CHAPTER 2

JEDI, CLONE TROOPERS AND BATTLE DROIDS COMB THE GALAXY FOR R2-D2, BUT WHO WILL BE THE FIRST TO FIND THE LOST DROID AND THE SECRET BLUEPRINTS STORED INSIDE HIM?

WE'VE GOT TO SAVE ARTOO BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT DROID AND GET THE PLANS BACK BEFORE THE SEPARATISTS DO!

WE'VE GOT TO...DANCE!

WOO!

ABOARD THE *TWILIGHT*, ANAKIN AND AHSOKA SEARCH FOR THEIR MISSING FRIEND.

THIS IS BAD, SKY-GUY! WHO KNOWS WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO POOR ARTOO OUT THERE?

DON'T WORRY, AHSOKA—

—I'M SURE HE'S RIGHT WHERE WE LEFT HIM.

ARRIVING AT THE SCENE OF THEIR LAST BATTLE...

WELL, THIS IS WHERE WE SAW ARTOO LAST...

...BUT WHERE IS HE?

HEY, IT'S YOU GUYS AGAIN. HI!

ANAKIN AND AHSOKA BRING A BATTLE DROID ABOARD FOR QUESTIONING.

WHERE IS HE? WHERE'S R2-D2?

WHOA! TAKE IT EASY, PAL!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE ASTROMECH THAT FELL OFF YOUR SHIP, SOMEBODY ALREADY PICKED HIM UP.

WHO TOOK HIM?!

I DON'T KNOW! THEY WERE TALL... SKINNY...KIND OF QUIET...

"...AND REALLY INCREDIBLY SCARY."
ANAKIN AND AHSOKA HAVE THEIR FIRST CLUE!
WOW. REAL JEDI? WHAT WERE THEY LIKE?
ONE SEEMED NICE, BUT THE OTHER WAS KIND OF CRANKY.
BOOM!
THIS IS THE ONLY SEPARATIST PLANET IN THE SYSTEM. THEY MUST HAVE TAKEN ARTOO HERE.
WHOOSH!
LOOK! THERE'S THE SPEEDER THE BATTLE DROID DESCRIBED.
THEN WE'RE CLOSE. THE DROID-NAPPERS HAVE TO BE NEARBY...
MAYBE EVEN CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!
KER-WHOOSH!
KERK!
YOW!
DID I MENTION I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS?
"A REALLY BAD FEELING."
GOOD SHOT!
I WAS ACTUALLY AIMING AT THE JEDI, BUT THANKS!
NOW FINISH THEM OFF!
SHOOM!
ROGER ROGER.
THEY HAVE ROCKET LAUNCHERS!
I'VE GOT IT COVERED.
ZZZZZ!
KSHH!
TELL US WHERE R2-D2 IS!
UH...ANY IDEA WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT?
ROGER ROGER?
??
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GIVE - ME - MY - DROID!
YIKES, THIS GUY'S CRAZY! YOU WANT A DROID? TAKE ONE OF MY BATTLE DROIDS IF YOU'LL PROMISE TO GO AWAY!
BYOOEEEE!
HOW CAN HE GO AWAY? WE BROKE THEIR SHIP!
ROGER ROOGEEEER!
SUDDENLY, LASER BLASTS PIN THE TWO JEDI DOWN!
LOOK OUT!
ASSASSIN DROIDS!
HA! I TAKE IT BACK! YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY OF MY DROIDS AFTER ALL.
PHEW!
IT'S A REPUBLIC ATTACK SHUTTLE! WE'RE SAVED!
EITHER THAT...
...OR WE'RE IN EVEN BIGGER TROUBLE THAN BEFORE. ULP!
TO BE CONTINUED!
MEANWHILE...
OKAY...DOES ANYBODY HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE WE ARE?
MAP
VISIT STARWARS.LEGO.COM FOR THE CLONE SIDE OF THE STORY!
WOO!
CAN'T STOP DANCING!
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POWER MINERS ROCK ONLINE!

Check out the all-new Power Miners website this month for the latest adventure and fun in the world of the rock monsters!

- Exciting new quizzes!
- Challenge the new Cave Convoy game!
- Fun new videos!

PLUS downloads, games, character pages, and much more!

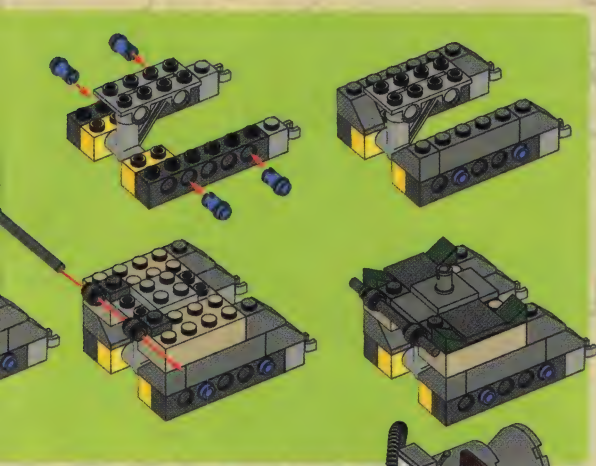
powerminers.LEGO.com

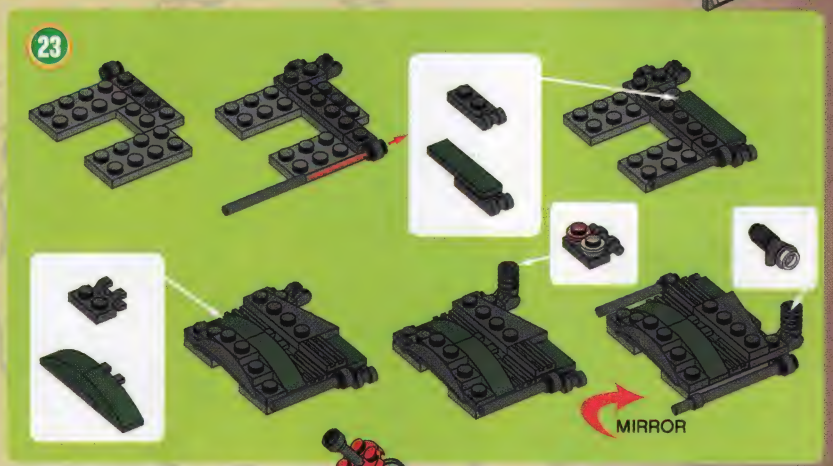
BUILD THE CRYSTAL CANNON TRUCK!

Powered by a mysterious crystal discovered deep in a Brazilian tomb, this truck-mounted cannon is one of the many incredible experiments and treasures hidden away at Hangar 51. Who will be the first to find and drive it – Indiana Jones or one of his enemies?

Build the Crystal Cannon Truck using pieces from 7682 Shanghai Chase and 7683 Fight on the Flying Wing!

LEGO INDIANA JONES





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LEGO® "SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE" BUILDING CHALLENGE!

What do you think the "school of the future" will look like? Robot teachers? Brain helmets? History classes complete with time machines?

Build your idea of the "school of the future" using pieces from your LEGO collection and you could be one of five winners to receive a $100.00 LEGO gift card!

HOW TO ENTER:

1. Build your idea of the school of the future, using pieces from your LEGO collection.
2. Take a color photograph of your model. Only color photos and glossy photo quality print-outs will be accepted – no Polaroids, please!
3. Send your photo, along with your name, age, mailing address, daytime telephone number, and the name of your model to:

LEGO® "School of the Future" Building Challenge
P.O. Box 1625
Enfield, CT 06083-1625

Contest open to LEGO® BrickMaster™ members ONLY!

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. All entries must be received by midnight EST May 1st, 2009. Offer void where prohibited or restricted by law. Models must be constructed using only LEGO® pieces. Employees of LEGO Systems, Inc. ("Sponsor") and its affiliates and subsidiaries, advertising/promotions agencies and their immediate families are not eligible to participate. Entries will be judged based on originality (50%) and creativity (50%). Five (5) first prize winners will be selected from all eligible entries. Estimated total retail value of each prize $100.00. All winners will be notified by regular US mail. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute prizes of equal or greater value. LEGO Company and its affiliates and subsidiaries are not responsible for late, lost, misdirected, mutilated or damaged entries. All entries become the property of Sponsor and will not be returned. By participating in this contest, entrants agree to be bound by the official rules and decisions of the judges. By acceptance of prize, winners consent to the use of their name/likeness/entry materials in any manner by Sponsor for advertising/trade without further compensation unless prohibited by law. By accepting any prize, winners agree to hold the Sponsor harmless against any and all claims, damage, injury caused or liability related to the administration of this contest, participation in this promotion, and/or the use or redemption of a prize.

All entries must be received by May 1st, 2009!

Join the LEGO City construction crew
For some awesome building fun!
Meet a Power Miner set designer!
7631
COMING
NEXT
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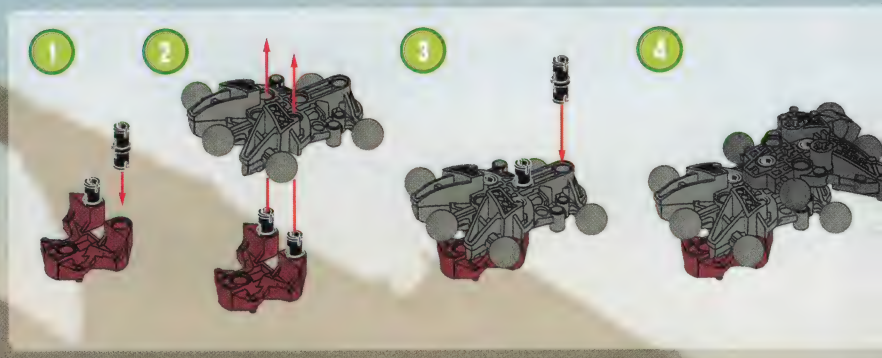
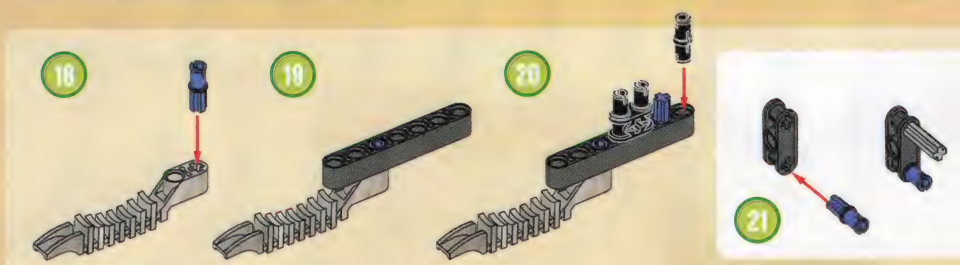
Soar into action in a new
LEGO® Star Wars™ comic!
Plus Racers, BIONICLE®,
and much more!
www.LEGOclub.com
29

BUILD A SAND STALKER!

When Glatorian need to cross the vast desert of Bara Magna, they do it on sand stalkers. These four-legged mounts can go long distances without food or water and can cross dunes without losing their footing. Though not as fierce in battle as the rock steeds of the bone hunters, they have greater endurance than those creatures and are easier to tame.

Build a sand stalker for your Glatorian using pieces from #8979 Malum and #8990 Fero and Skirmix!





5
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x2
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x2
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BrickMaster
Final

LEGO® FANS BUILD A BASEBALL LEGEND!

Meet Sean and Gordon, two LEGO fans who worked together to create one amazing model: a scale replica of the original Yankee Stadium built entirely out of LEGO bricks!

Sean Kenney is a professional LEGO artist who has been building for over 30 years and owns over a million bricks. Gordon Goodwin is a 12-year-old kid who spent nearly 3 years working with Sean to build his dream LEGO model. Here's what they have to say about their out-of-the-ballpark project!

Why did you decide to make Yankee Stadium?

Gordon: I am a very passionate baseball fan, and as you can see, I like the Yankees. The LEGO Yankee Stadium is not just a project – it's part of my life, because I have been working on it for so long.

Sean: Yankee Stadium is a big piece of New York history and American baseball history. It's an icon that housed many famous baseball players, like Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra and Lou Gehrig. But now the Yankees have moved to a new stadium, and it's sad to lose the original! Perhaps his LEGO model will help everyone remember "the house that Ruth built."

How did you design your model?

Sean: We started by using a mapping website to get a satellite photo of the stadium. We printed it out, took lots of measurements, and drew a "blueprint" onto graph paper. Then we collected hundreds of photos of the stadium by searching online photo websites. When we started building, we used the photos as a visual guide and the blueprints as a mathematical guide. A lot of the details, like windows, entryways and signs, were built just by looking at photos and coming up with a good way to build them with LEGO bricks. For really important details, like the famous façade or the elevated train that runs outside the stadium, we often built many different versions and placed them onto the model to compare how they would look.

What was it like to build Yankee Stadium together?

Sean: Gordon did a great job throughout the project. From the very beginning he was involved in everything from finding reference photos, sketching on graph paper and building prototypes, all the way through to the actual design and construction of the sculpture. We ended up collaborating on design, and he came up with some really great ideas. This project has been a lot of fun!

Gordon: It was very fun to work on a big project with Sean. I built the entire stadium from home plate, down the right field foul line and across to center field. I also built many of the ads that ring the outfield wall. Some parts of the building process were fun, which made them seem very easy, but some required hard work and patience, including rebuilding parts where my designs didn't work the first time.

How big is your completed model?

Sean: The stadium is built to a scale of 1:150 from over 47,000 LEGO bricks. That means that every 1 inch in the model represents 150 inches (12.5 feet) in the real stadium. The model is about 5 feet wide and 5 feet long. We were going to make it smaller, but we decided that a bigger stadium would look great and much more impressive!

What are some of your favorite details?

Sean: Monument Park includes placards and monuments to famous Yankees players, just like in the real stadium. There are little details all over the place, like 1-inch-tall trees, turnstiles at the ticket booths, loading dock doors, air conditioners on the roofs, even a squirrel climbing the foul pole!

Gordon: If you look inside one of the sections, we have a manager's office with a throne, fireplace and contracts. Outside, you can see the subway train station, tracks and even a scale subway car. The ads along the back are another of my favorite parts. They look like real ads. We even put a LEGO ad in, just for the fun of it.

Did you use any special building tricks?

Sean: The stadium has a lot of curved walls, which are made by stepping bricks slowly across large areas to give the illusion of a curve, just like when I create giant sculptures of people or faces. We used hinges in a few places to make some important angled areas. Sometimes you can turn LEGO plates sideways to get the thin side of the plate to make a thin line, when you need to add really little details. We did this for the foul lines, which run on strange angles outward from home plate. We used the same technique outside the stadium to make the lines and cross-walks on the streets.

Gordon: I think the score-board in center field is so cool because we used black and yellow "lightsaber" pieces placed sideways to form dots and create words. We were able to spell things, and we used pieces in a special way.

Subway Train Station

Monument Park

Do you have any building tips to share with the LEGO BrickMaster members reading this?

Sean: You don't need to have a million LEGO bricks to create great models! It's easy to look at a big model like this and think, "I could never do that," but guess what? You can! All you need is an idea and the patience to think up a great design for what you want to build. Take a look at the little trains we have running past the stadium – each train car has less than 30 pieces, so it's easy to build and still looks really cool. Also, unless you're building something imaginary, try taking a photo and setting it down next to where you build your LEGO models. You'd be surprised what details you forget when you're only working from memory!

Any last thoughts?

Gordon: I have mixed feelings now that this project is over. I have finished a 3-year project and I'm thrilled, but I'm sad not to be working on Yankee Stadium every weekend.

Thanks, Gordon and Sean – keep on building!

That's not all these awesome builders had to say. Visit www.LEGOClub.com and enter

clubcode

STADIUM

for the full interview!

ROCK MONSTER MAYHEM!

Rock monsters are running amok in the underground caves! It's up to the Power Miners Stone Chopper and Mine Mech to find them all... but they'll need your help to do it! Can you spot each type of monster (5 in all) and 10 crystals hiding in this scene?

Find the Monsters & Crystals!

MELTROX

Angry and destructive, Meltrox is always the first one to fight and the last to surrender.

BOULDERAX

Strong, slow, and not too smart, Boulderax lives to smash things into little pieces.

GLACIATOR

Nasty and mean, Glaciator uses other rock monsters to do his fighting for him.

SULFURIX

Clever and sly, Sulfurix can make his own tunnels by melting through solid rock.

FIROX

Sneaky and curious, Firox is also the fastest rock monster and the hardest to catch.

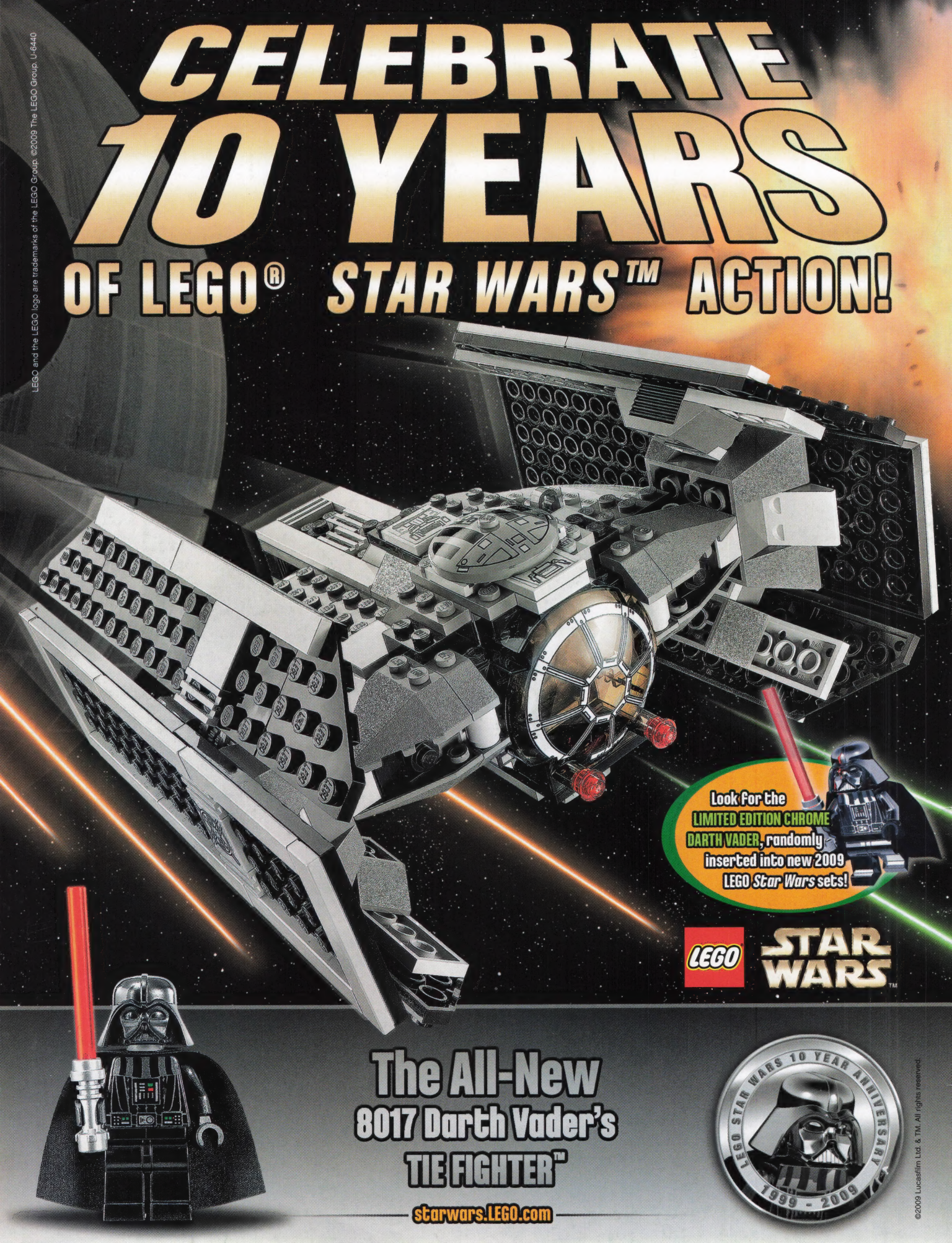
LEGO POWER MINERS

LEGO CITY

BIG DAY ON THE FARM!

HEY! HEY, YOU!
YOU GUYS ARE ALWAYS COMING DOWN FROM LEGO CITY AND TALKING ABOUT HOW EASY LIFE IS HERE ON THE FARM.
WELL, THINK AGAIN!
YOU THINK ALL WE DO IS DRIVE TRACTORS IN THE FIELDS...
CHUG-CHUG-CHUG-CHUG-
AHH, THIS IS THE LIFE.
...BUT YOU TRY RUNNING OUT OF PETROL 30 MILES FROM THE NEAREST STATION!
HELP!
YOU THINK IT'S ALL ABOUT WALKING IN THE FRESH COUNTRY AIR...

...BUT HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CHASED BY AN OUT-OF-CONTROL COMBINE HARVESTER?
VRRRMMMMMMM!
WHY DO I ALWAYS FORGET TO PUT ON THE BRAKE?!
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST DRIVE OUT HERE FOR SOME WEEKEND RIDING PRACTICE...
WHEE!
CLIPPITY-CLOP CLIPPITY-CLOP
C'MON, DARLING! YOU CAN MAKE THE JUMP!
...BUT DO YOU EVER REMEMBER TO PACK A LADDER?"
WELL, NOW WE'RE IN A PICKLE!
LIFE ON THE FARM...
WOOF! WOOF!
...IT'S NOT AS EASY AS YOU THINK!
MEOW!
HONK! HONK!
SCREECH!
THE END!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